



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Nov. 2, 2011

MAYOR JERRY SANDERS

FACT SHEET

MAYOR SPEEDS UP BIDDING PROCESS FOR INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

Average time to award projects cut in half

Street resurfacing, water-main replacements and scores of other projects are getting bid out twice as fast because of reforms to the city's contracting process, Mayor Jerry Sanders announced today.

The Mayor's Office will present the City Council's Budget and Finance Committee today with data showing that the city has cut in half the amount of time it takes to award these capital-improvement projects. Mayor Sanders instituted the reforms at the beginning of July, and since then the average time to award a contract has dropped from 120 to 60 days.

"This is a good start, although my goal is to speed up the process even more," the mayor said. "By eliminating red tape and reorganizing some departments, we're seeing immediate results. The quicker we can award these contracts, the quicker we can spend money to resurface streets, repair our storm-drain system and perform countless other vital infrastructure upgrades."

Councilmember Todd Gloria, who chairs the Budget Committee, added: "The Council shares the Mayor's desire to accelerate the pace of road repairs and other infrastructure projects. We will work with him to find additional ways to cut red tape, get shovels in the ground and put San Diegans to work."

In total, the city has awarded 65 job-generating contracts for \$121 million since streamlining the process in July. Under the July reorganization, 14 positions were moved from the city's Purchasing and Contracting Department to the city's Public Works Department. Among other things, the city also hired a contracts program manager.

Brad Barnum, of the Associated General Contractors of America's San Diego chapter, complimented the mayor for working with Barnum's group to iron out some of the problem areas. "The change already seems to be paying off," Barnum said.

The Mayor's Office will ask the Budget and Finance Committee to adopt several other reforms that will further streamline the contracting process while retaining all necessary oversight to make sure taxpayers get the best deal possible. Among other things, the city is in the process of spending \$47 million to resurface more than 100 miles of streets.

#